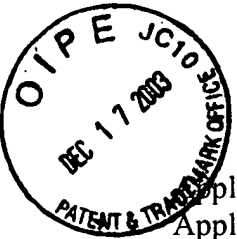


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1742



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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TC 1700

Appl. No. : 10/073,688
Applicant : Owen M. Briles et al.
Filed : February 11, 2002
TC/A.U. : 1742
Examiner : Andrew L. Oltmans

Confirmation No. 4410

Docket No. : EH-10571(01-565)
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the office action mailed September 15, 2003, setting forth a three (3) month shortened statutory period for response which expires on December 15, 2003, amend the above captioned patent application as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 9 of this paper.